

## R E M A R K S

Just prior to the filing of this paper, this application was pending on appeal. By filing this Request for Continued Examination, it is intended that the appeal be withdrawn and the application be further examined.

Claims 1-21 are in the case, with claims 8-14 pending and claims 1-7 and 15-21 withdrawn from consideration at this time. Filed simultaneously herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner. Claim 8 has been amended. Support for this amendment exists at least in paragraph 0004 of the Specification, and the amendment is considered otherwise permissible.

The Examiner's rejections from the Final Office Action under Section 102(e) and Section 103(a) are deemed moot in view of the presented amendment. In further support of the claims as amended, Applicant submits the accompanying Rule 1.132 affidavit of the inventor, as evidence of the non-obviousness of the invention as claimed in the amended claims.

Favorable action on this application is solicited. If any matters remain that require further consideration, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the number given below so that such matters may be discussed, and if possible, promptly resolved. **Moreover, if for some reason any action on this application other than allowance becomes possible, the Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner before the rendering such action.**

Respectfully submitted,

*/R. Andrew Patty II/*

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